

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
April 4, 2007
Conference Call

Members Present: Jack Corson, Vice President
David Graham
Jim Mickelson
John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture
David Largent

Members Absent: Juan Reyes
Joe Thomas
Gene Hardy
Patrick Zimmerer
Dalin Winters
Emily Horton
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture
Ryan Lance, Governor Freudenthal's Office

WDA Staff Present: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary

EIMC

John said in 2003, WDA had a bill in to create an Emergency Insect Account of about 6 million dollars to combat disease borne by insects. The money didn't come through the session, but a committee was formed to distribute the 600 thousand dollars which was appropriated. They now have 3 million.

JIO

John said the committee is made up of John Cora, Bob Bennett, Terry Cleveland and himself. They make the decisions on the grants.

Joint Ag Committee

John said the meeting would be on April 24 in Laramie and the Committee plans on touring several places near Laramie on April 23. The Committee is focusing on 2-year reviews of programs. WDA is currently working on the Weights and Measure Law.

GBCT

The government cut the funding to the GBCT which will force the closure of the Lander office.

Sage Grouse Technical Team

John said they had a meeting about two weeks ago. The committee is made up of three sage grouse biologists, three range managers, and one age economist. There are some real contrasting views so it will be quite interesting to see where they find common ground. This should provide additional data to the existing Sage Grouse Teams.

AUM's

Jack wondered if the BLM projects around the Anticline are going to affect the permittees. John said in talking with Bob Bennett he doesn't think there are supposed to be any major cutbacks

due to the drilling in the area.

Montana Law Suit

John says the attorney general's office doesn't think they have much of a case against Wyoming, but this could drag on for quite some time in the court system.

Board Vacancy

John continues to look for a candidate for District 4. he is talking with someone who qualifies but recently was elected to the school board and is not sure if he will have time for both. Both Vasey and Dircks are not interested in having the party lines changed to make it easier to find board members.

There being no additional business. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Corson, President

Date